TREASURY DEPARTMENT Washington

REVISED STATEMENT REGARDING THE SYSTEM OF CENTRAL ACCOUNTING FOR THE RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND RELATED CASH OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

1961 Department Circular No. 945 Second Revision Treasury Department Office of the Secretary Washington, D. C. January 17, 1961

Fiscal Service
Bureau of Accounts

TO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES AND OTHERS CONCERNED:

- l. Under the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950, the Secretary of the Treasury is required to so organize accounting in the Treasury Department as to provide the operating center for consolidation of accounting results of other agencies with those of the Department, under a unified system of central accounting and financial reporting for the Government as a whole. The statement previously issued in Department Circular No. 945-Revised, dated April 29, 1955, established the framework for a unified system of central accounts in relation to the financial reporting and other responsibilities of the Treasury Department concerning the Government's finances.
- 2. The system installed on July 1, 1955 represented a culmination of the procedural modifications established by the regulations issued jointly by the Secretary of the Treasury and Comptroller General of the United. States, under authority of section 115 of the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950. Further modifications in the system are scheduled to be made in the near future, consistent with the existing joint regulations, which will have an effect on certain procedural requirements applicable to (a) all departments and agencies for which the Treasury disburses, as well as the regional disbursing and accounting offices of the Bureau of Accounts, Treasury Department; and (b) Government corporations and such other agencies whose disbursing officers now draw and will continue to draw on the Treasurer of the United States through funded checking accounts.
- 3. There follows a brief reference to the scheduled modifications in relation to the pertinent features of the existing system. The Statement setting forth the principal features of the system, as contained in the April 29, 1955 issue of this Circular, will be updated in the near future and issued by the Fiscal Assistant Secretary.

- a. Concerning all departments and agencies for which the Treasury disburses and the Treasury's regional disbursing and accounting offices:
- (1) Treasury regional offices presently maintain accounts according to individual appropriations, funds and receipt classifications for transactions in an accounting relationship with each agency office for which they disburse. These accounts form the basis for reporting the classified receipts and disbursements in support of the disbursing officers' monthly statements of accountability, which are used coordinately by (a) the administrative agencies, for checking with the transactions in their own accounts; (b) the Treasury Department, for central accounting and reporting; and (c) the General Accounting Office, for audit and settlement. In the future, Treasury regional offices will maintain accounts at a summary level only, for the disbursement and receipt transactions they handle for each agency accounting office concerned. Monthly classifications of the transactions according to appropriations, funds and receipt accounts will be furnished to the Treasury by the agency accounting offices, directly from their own accounts.
- (2) There will be no change in the present basis for reporting classified disbursements and receipts, according to the accounting period in which (a) vouchers are acknowledged by the disbursing offices as having been paid, and (b) deposits are confirmed by depositaries as having been credited in the account of the Treasurer of the United States. Monthly classified reports of the agency accounting offices to the Treasury will furnish appropriate control totals of paid vouchers and confirmed deposits which, in the central accounts, will be anchored to (a) the summary disbursing transaction totals reported in the regional disbursing office statements of accountability, according to each related agency office, and (b) the summary deposit transaction totals, according to each related agency office accounting for the deposits, developed from deposit documentation credited in the account of the Treasurer of the United States. The practice of having original deposit documentation flow into Treasury regional offices, for the present purpose of bringing together all receipt and disbursement transactions in a single Treasury-agency accounting relationship, will be discontinued. Such documentation will flow into the Bureau of Accounts centrally, for the aforementioned purpose of interlocking the data on confirmed deposits reported by the agencies with the data on deposits received in the Treasurer's account.
- The foregoing modifications will become effective July 1, 1961.
- b. <u>Concerning Government Corporations and such other agencies</u>
 whose disbursing officers now draw and will continue to draw on the Treasurer
 of the United States through funded checking accounts.
- (1) Accounts rendered or reports submitted by officers operating through funded checking accounts with the Treasurer of the United

States presently differ from what is reported by officers whose accounts are not funded (pursuant to Treasury Department-General Accounting Office Joint Regulation No. 4-Revised, dated April 29, 1955, as supplemented). The impending modifications for reporting in this area contemplate a greater degree of uniformity in the handling of reports and transactions for both funded and unfunded checking accounts in the central accounting and reporting activities. Among other things, the new form of reporting by officers operating with funded checking accounts will enable the Treasury (a) to disclose balances of checks outstanding separately from deposits in transit for such checking accounts; and (b) to record directly from such reports classified amounts of miscellaneous receipts and other receipts required to be deposited into the Treasury outside checking accounts, and to disclose balances of deposits in transit for such deposits.

- (2) These modifications, which are planned to become effective before the close of fiscal year 1961, will be established pursuant to regulations to be issued by the General Accounting Office and by the Treasury Department in their respective areas of responsibility.
- 4. Implementing regulations of the Treasury Department within the framework of this Circular will be issued by the Fiscal Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. Any questions concerning the provisions of this Circular should be directed to the Bureau of Accounts.

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